

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 19, 2004

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
House Appropriations Committee
H-149 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Murtha
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
House Appropriations Committee
1016 LHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Lewis and Ranking Member Murtha:

As the Defense Subcommittee prepares the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2005, we urge the subcommittee to fully fund the President's Budget Request for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. The Joint Strike Fighter program is critical to our nations' and our allies' future war-fighting capability.

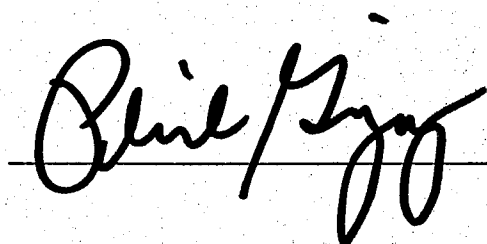
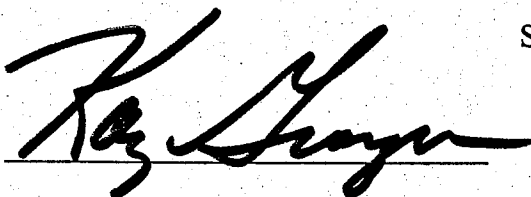
In its third year of development, the Joint Strike Fighter Program has made significant progress and is meeting the development challenges that have arisen. The focus remains to be achieving the program vision of affordability, lethality, survivability, supportability, and interoperability.

The impending expiration of current aircraft service life requires that our armed forces procure significant numbers of fighter aircraft to maintain our force structure and pre-eminence in multi-role tactical aviation. The Joint Strike Fighter provides the only viable, affordable, and transformational solution. This program will help insure our military's air superiority for the next half of the 21st Century.

Not only is the Joint Strike Fighter an affordable solution, it will create a truly global and highly effective fighter force. With the Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps flying variations of the Joint Strike Fighter, we will be able to train and fight at a more "JOINT" level than ever before. Our armed forces will also be able to train and fight more cooperatively with many of our strongest allies that will be flying the Joint Strike Fighter

Again, we strongly support the President's Budget Request for fiscal year 2005 for the Joint Strike Fighter. This program will help guarantee American air superiority and our position as the leading fighter aircraft producer in the 21st Century.

Sincerely,



John B. Jan

David Scott

Robin Hayes

Jim Gibbons

Ciro Rodriguez

Alan Bosh

Chit Edwards

Carolyn McCarthy

John Bradley

Julia Conson

John B. Jan

Michael Burgess

Sam Johnson

Max Bunn

Lee Barton

John B. Jan

Bob Hensarling

~~Kevin Brown~~

Rick Warren

J. Roddy Ford

Joseph Stuntz

Rodney Alexander

Jim Fur

Mike McIntyre

Max Baer

Madeleine Bordallo

John R. Carter

Nestor Lopez

Mike Rosen

Maryland

Jeff Miller

Chris Bell

Thomson

Charles F. Boes

Samuel D. Bishop

Ralph M. Hall

Harold P. Buckner

Lamar Smith

Pete Sessions

Mike Simp

Joe Wilson

Mr. Farn

Cliff Strong

C. A. Peter Propper

Wm Van Holler

John Davis

Sam Burton

Sol Ory

Iddie Bernice Johnson

John Culberson

Ross C. Y. Lee

Denise L. Mayette

Randy Neugebauer

Charles E. Feyerherz

Rubin Hinojosa

Ken Mann

Jim Marshall

**Joint Strike Fighter Letter, HAC-D
Signature List**

4-22-04

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Howard "Buck" McKeon
Jim Gibbons
Robin Hayes
Jo Ann Davis
Charles Bass
Jim Turner
Joe Wilson
Rob Simmons
Solomon Ortiz
Martin Frost
Johnny Isakson
Rob Bishop
Chet Edwards
Michael Burgess
Sam Johnson
David Scott
Julia Carson
Joe Barton
Rosa DeLauro
Ciro Rodriguez
Steny Hoyer
Max Burns
Mike Simpson
Joseph Crowley
Mike McIntyre
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Ric Keller
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Rodney Alexander
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Ralph Hall
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